



The image is a vertical composition. The top half shows a dark, craggy cliffside under a clear blue sky. A bright, arched opening, possibly a cave entrance, is visible on the right side of the cliff. The bottom half shows a large, multi-story building with a light-colored facade and a dark roof. The building has several rows of windows and a stone wall in front of it. The building is illuminated from below, creating a warm glow. In the foreground, there is a body of water, likely a river, which reflects the light from the building and the cliff. The overall scene is a mix of natural and man-made elements, suggesting a historical or cultural site.

AMASYA

Teshub Statuette, Hittite Period





King Rock Tombs and Yalıbozu Houses

Amasya is a fairy tale city, dedicated to the Ancient Iris River (Yeşilirmak), written on the mountains. Stubborn, loving, maternal, and generous... When you look you can not distinguish, is it the river reflected on the mountains or the reflection of the mountains in the water. With the limber lines where the steep elevations intersect with the water, it is like drawn by the hand of an artist.

This unique picture at Yeşilirmak's bank is located in the middle of the Black Sea Region. Amasya neighboring the Central Anatolia Region, is a landlocked city. There is Samsun in the north, Yozgat in the south, Tokat in the east and Çorum in the west. Amasya among the surrounding cities as well as in Turkey has a very characteristic and discrete structure in terms of geographical and settlement features. With this state it exhibits the stubborn attitude beating the odds and its love for nature. It is alias "Şehzadeler Şehri" (The city of the son's of sultans). The sons of Ottoman Sultans, which ruled the world once, are grown up with the maturity and generosity of

Amasya. Yavuz Sultan Selim and Murad II were born in Amasya. Yıldırım Bayezid, Fatih Sultan Mehmet, Bayezid II, Murad III and many others are grown up in Amasya.

The city's initial name according to the Hittite documents is known as Hakmiş - Harşena. The hill today located within the Amasya Castle is called Harşena Mountain and the castle is called Harşena Castle. Harşena means "holy river city" and identical to Amasya. But after the Persians' conquest, during the period of Mithridates Kingdom, it has been called "Amasseia" and this name reached today as "Amasya". "Amasseia" is interpreted as the "City of the Mother Goddess Ma".

Yeşilirmak has been the source of civilizations since Chalcolithic Age in Amasya. Also the passages opened by the river in the deep valleys have ensured the safest ways for thousands of years connecting Amasya to the Central Anatolia and to the Black Sea coast and enabled the permanence of the civilizations in the region. That's why Hattis, Hittites, Phrygians, Cimmerians, Scythians, Medes,





Geneological Table, Ottoman Period

Persians, Romans, Byzantines, Seljuks and Ilkhanids, Eretna State and of course great Ottoman Empire have left traces in Amasya.

Today, when you want to follow these traces you can start from the mounds. Ovasaray Köyü (Village) Hamam Hill, Kümpet, Keşlik, Ayvalıpınar, Devret and Yoğurtçu Baba mounds take you to the Chalcolithic Age. King Rock Tombs, Amasya Castle, Şehzadeler Museum and Hazaranlar Konağı (Mansion) Ethnography Museum, are important stops during the journey you will take to history in Amasya. For a quick tour, one can find traces of life in all periods in the city all together. Amasya Castle, built on Harşena Mountain, a castle as well as urban settlement over the centuries, Ottoman houses located on the fortifications called Yalıboyu at Yeşilirmak River bank and dozens of monuments make Amasya a unique city and a museum city. Very important sci-

entists, artists, poets and famous persons were born and lived in Amasya. The famous medical doctor and surgeon Sabuncuzade Şerefeddin, historian Aşık Paşa, Yakut-i Mustasimi, one of the calligraphers that created "Amasya Ecole" in Ottoman calligraphy, Şeyh Hamdullah known as the master of calligraphers, calligrapher and poet Tacizade Cafer Çelebi, Fatih Sultan Mehmet and his teachers Akşemseddin and Zembilli Ali Efendi, Mihri Hatun the first Ottoman female poet with a divan (book of collected poems) and another female poet Zeynep Hatun. The world famous geographer Strabo whose works that could be found translated into many languages all around the world, describes Amasya in his works as "My city is a city for kings of rare beauty that could be built by mankind." Strabo from Amasya is the owner of the phrase "What can be imagined can never be destroyed".



Lake Boraboy



Amasya Apple

Traveler G. PERRAT, who has visited the city in 1861 said "Amasya is the Oxford of Anatolia!"

And there is also an immortal love legend of Amasya though, as if Ferhat's and Şirin's voices are still echoing in the mountains... The city is important in the history of the Republic. One the most important steps of the War of Independence has been taken here and the strategy of the liberation has been finalized on 22 June 1919 via the Amasya Memorandum, the birth certificate of the Turkish Republic which has awakened the consciousness of the people. Although surrounded by steep rises, its hills are not very high. Plains are very fertile lands. The natural beauty created by these hills and plains is worth to see. Although influenced by the continental climate of Central Anatolia, this valley city has a unique mild climate in the lower parts. Along with history tourism, with the richness of nature, travel, sports

and health tourism Amasya is one of the dearests in Turkey. Amasya Boraboy Lake-Akdağ National Park with the ongoing works, Terziköy Thermal Springs, Yedi Kuğular Bird Sanctuary (Yedi-kır Dam), Hammözü Thermal Springs are natural places to be certainly visited before leaving Amasya. Amasya's self-famous 'Misket Apple', its 'Keşkek', 'Toyga Soup', 'Çiçek Bamyası' (Okra) and 'Baklalı Dolma' (vine leaves stuffed with broad bean) are the traditional flavors that should be tasted. On the top of the souvenirs list are Misket Apple, the symbol of the city with its unique aroma and taste, apple molasses, kuru çiçek bamyası (dried flower okra), Amasya çöreği (cookie) and bakır semaver (copper tea urn). One also can find souvenirs such as handicraft of the women of Amasya, like handcrafted dolls made of corn cob shell, silver jewelry, fabrics and rugs.

So here is the 40 steps route of this magical beauty fairy tale...

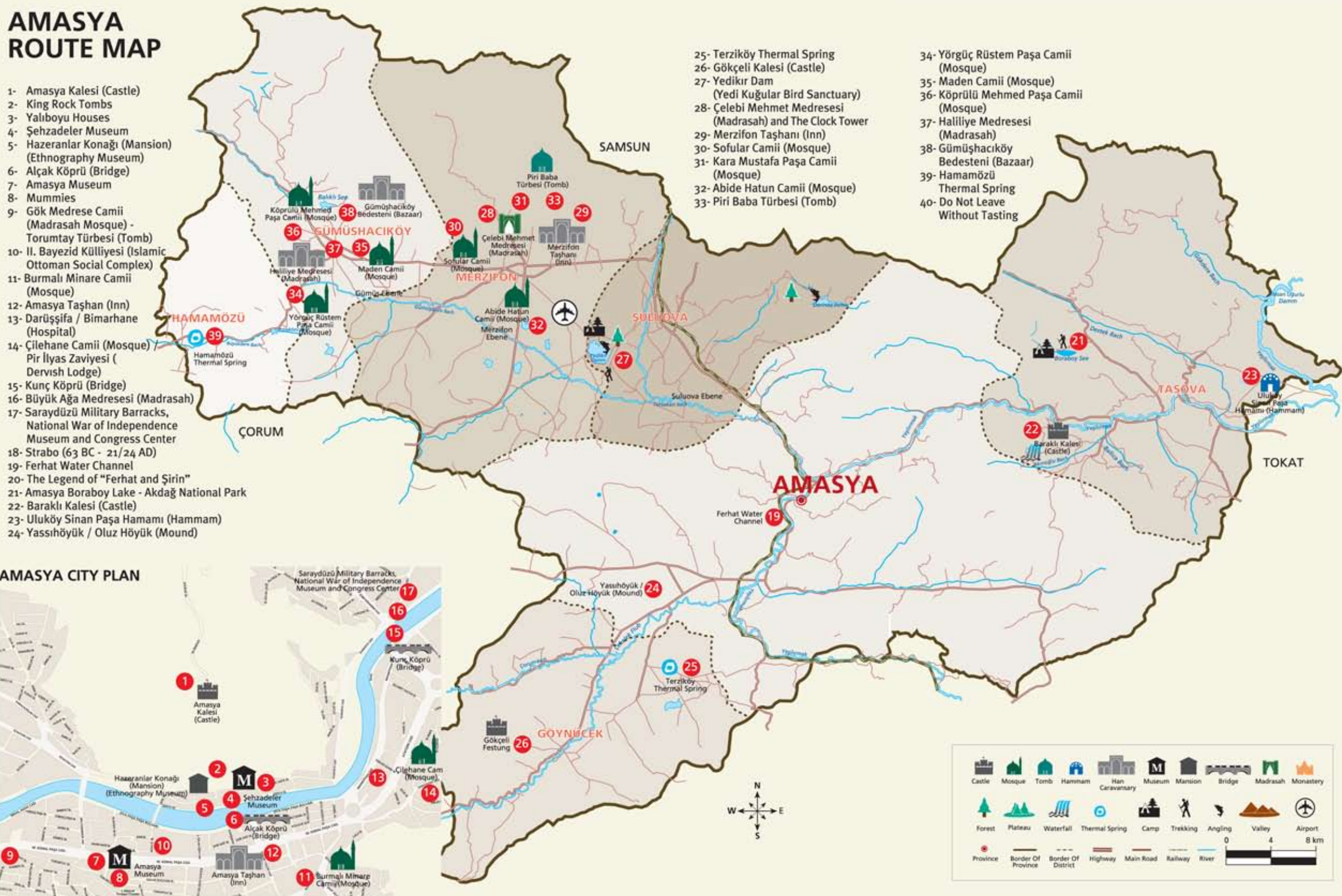
AMASYA ROUTE MAP

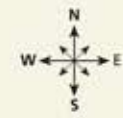
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- 2- King Rock Tombs
- 3- Yalıboyu Houses
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- 6- Alçak Köprü (Bridge)
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- 39- Hamamözü Thermal Spring
- 40- Do Not Leave Without Tasting

AMASYA CITY PLAN









Amasya Castle

1- AMASYA KALESİ (CASTLE)

The castle founded on Harşena Mountain in the north of the city has an altitude of 262 m from Yeşilirmak River. Castle is also known with the name of Mount Harşena which it is built on. According to the Arabic historians, it has been built by "the Turkish ruler Kar-san Khan"; according to the western historians, by " Mit-hridates, the Black Sea Cappadocia King". However, the finds proves that the castle has been inhabited continuously from the Early Bronze Age to the present. Amasya Castle consists of three parts.

a) Harşena Kalesi (Fort)

The fort is the pinnacle of the castle, where there are walls built in the Hellenistic Period, cisterns built in different periods, Cilanbolu Tunnel cisterns and still not excavated Ottoman Period Quarter ruins. It's a great view point where one can see the magnificent Amasya city settlement.

The tunnel located in the central part of the Harşena Fort, has been built in the 4th century BC and it's called among the people so-called "Cilanbo-

lu Tunnel". The cistern has been carved into the bedrock with 4 m in width, 3,90 m in height and 181m in length with a base with 364 stone steps.

b) Kızlar Sarayı (Palace) and King Rock Tombs (Central Castle)

In the region on the southern slopes of Amasya Castle 5 monumental rock tombs, two Ottoman and Seljuk hammams belonging to the 14th and the 15th century carved into the rocks and the secret passage "Ceylan Yolu Tunnel" starting from this region going down to Yeşilirmak and Hellenistic Period walls are located.

c) Enderun Castle – the Inner City (the Citadel)

In this area located between the Kızlar Sarayı and the walls at the Yeşilirmak River, and still called as Hatuniye District, in the former Ottoman Street pattern, mosques, baths, Ottoman fountains, museums, historic buildings, 67 residences, registered and still used as living spaces, boutique hotels, hostels, restaurants and cafes are located.

Amasya Castle is a place that must be considered as a special destination.



King Rock Tombs

2- KING ROCK TOMBS

King rock tombs are 5 monumental tombs belonging to the Kings of Mithridates Kingdom carved into the limestone rocks on southern slopes of Amasya Castle. The height of the tombs is between 14-7 m and, around burial chambers there is a (U) formed (religious ritual) corridor surrounding the chambers. In the burial chambers, there are corpse platforms on the stone bench in the burial chamber and sarcophagus, covered by vaulted and flat roofs. The tombs are connected to each other through stairs. They are dated to the Hellenistic Age (the Mithridates Kingdom) years 299-180 BC. Within the Yeşilirmak valley there are 21 tombs at various dimensions. One of the most beautiful examples of the tombs, which is also called Aynalı Mağara (mirrored cave) is the tomb of Tes, the Great Priest of the Universe. On the inner surface of the vault covering the monumental tomb, built in the 2nd century BC, frescos of 12 apostles, 6 on each side, standing and frontally, are painted. These fres-

cos are painted during the second usage of the tomb in the Byzantine Period in the 8th – 9th centuries AD as a monastery.

3- YALIBOYU HOUSES

In the domicil architecture, the wooden buildings reflect the traditional Turkish architecture elements. The houses are remarkable with oriels, hipped roofs, with their wide and wooden decorations. The most beautiful examples of these houses are Yeşilirmak Yalıboyu houses. Amasya, with its examples of traditional Turkish architecture, has the view of a well-kept city of a rich character in terms of town architecture. Due to a fire in 1915 the traditional quarters in Yüzevler has been burned.

Yalıboyu Houses



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Şehzadeler Museum

The examples of the traditional housing, which could be preserved within the city structure of today in the center of Amasya as well as in Gümüşhacıköy and Merzifon, are like visual feasts. This architectural composition can be observed especially in the city center of Amasya, in Yalıboyu on the banks of Yeşilirmak, in Hatuniye and Sofular, Helkis, Hacı İlyas and Şamlar quarters. Amasya houses, in the yard cooled by pomegranate, mulberry and jujube trees, where floor furnaces and ovens are available, which are used in the summers, consisting of haremlik(the part of a house reserved for the women) and selamlık(the part of Muslim house reserved for the men) having the traditional and regional characteristic, are attracting the attention with their façades having above the sliding (guillotine) windows triangular pediments.

Şehzadeler Museum

4- ŞEHZADELER MUSEUM

Amasya Şehzadeler Museum, a mansion built in the 19th century, is a structure of the late Ottoman Period. It is built, on the 5m wide walls of Amasya Castle at the bridge head of Alçak Köprü(bridge) in Hatuniye Quarter. It forms the silhouette of the city at Yeşilirmak roast in Yalıboyu together with the castle. The building, reconstructed by the Amasya Governorship according to its original architecture in 2007, has been opened to the visit in 2008 as the Private Şehzadeler Museum administrated by City Governor Administrative Structure.

The museum consists of a two-storey wooden building. Downstairs, the wax sculptures of the princes who have served as governor in Amasya but he didn't have the opportunity to become the Sultan, upstairs the wax sculptures of Ottoman Sultans are exhibited.

5- HAZERANLAR KONAĞI (MANSION) (ETHNOGRAPHY MUSEUM)

The Mansion has been built in 1865 by the head of treasury Hasan Talat Efendi and given as a gift to his sister Hazeran Hanım. The three-storey building, with its sections as ha-





Hazeranlar Mansion

remlik, selamlık, is in the style of a classical Ottoman Mansion. Hazeranlar Mansion has been expropriated by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism in 1979 and has been restored. In 1983, it has been opened to visit as the Ethnography Museum.

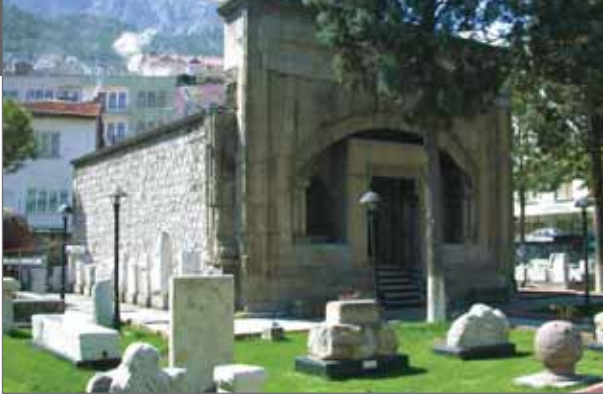
At Hazeranlar Mansion, ethnographic objects such as clothes, carpets and rugs, kitchen tools, women ornaments and jewelry, reflecting the daily life and social life of Amasya in 19th century are on display.

6- ALÇAK KÖPRÜ (BRIDGE)

It has been built during the Roman Period in the 2nd century AD on Yeşilirmak, to provide round-trip between the Amasya castle (acropolis) and the quarters across. As the Roman city ruins are at a 6-7m lower level today, and as the bridge arches stayed under water after the rise of the bed river, bridge piers have been built on the ancient arches of the bridge in 1865 by the orders of Ziya Paşa, Governor of Amasya, and this enabled the bridge to survive till today.

Alçak Bridge





Amasya Museum - Mesud I. Tomb

7- AMASYA MUSEUM

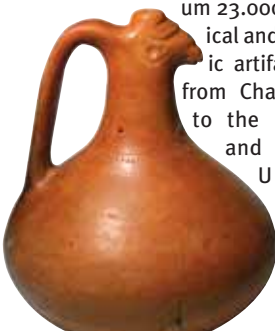
In 1925 the museum established by combining restricted number of archaeological artifacts and the Islamic period mummies gathered in the two rooms of the madrasah which was a part of Sultan Mahmud II Külliyesi (Islamic-Ottoman Social Complex) has been moved to Gök Madrasah Mosque, a Seljukian period monument, in 1962 as a result of the increase in the number of artifacts in time.

The museum has been moved to the today's museum building on March 22, 1977. All the artifacts have been rearranged in order to be displayed according to the chronological order and the museum has been opened to visit in 1980.

Amasya is a root guide, a historical inventory for the city and its environs. In the museum

23.000 archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, starting from Chalcolithic Age to the Bronze Age, and Hittite, U r a r t u , Phrygian,

Camel headed Jug, Iron Age



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Scythian Period, Hellenistic Ages, Roman, Byzantine, Seljukian, İlhanlı and Ottoman Period and mummies are preserved. And some of them are exhibited. In the museum garden, the stone work belonging to Hittite, Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, İlhanlı, Seljuk and Ottoman periods are exhibited.

8- MUMMIES

The mummies in the museum are exhibited in the tomb, belonging to Seljuk Sultan I, located in the garden of the museum. There are eight mummies in the museum. It is believed that they belong to İşbuğa Noyin, Cumudar, İzzettin Mehmet Pervane Bey, his concubine, his daughters and sons. He was the minister and emir during the dominance of the İlhan in Anatolia in the 14th century.

The mummies belonging to İşbuğa Noyin and Cumudar Bey are transferred from "Cumadar Tomb" next to the Burmalı Mosque and the other mummies are transferred from the cellar of Fethiye Mosque in 1855 to this tomb.

They have been transferred to the museum from here.



Gök Madrasah Mosque

9- GÖK MEDRESE CAMİİ (MADRASAH MOSQUE) - TORUMTAY TÜRBESİ (TOMB)

Gök Medrese Mosque which is a Seljukian monument, according to the copy of a deed of trust in the Foundation Records, has been built by the Amasya Governor Emir Seyfeddin Torumtay in 1266-1267. On the door of the mosque exhibited in the museum, the name of the craftsman is stated as "ameli Ebu'l Müslim el-Neccar". The madrasah named as Gök (meaning sky) Madrasah because of the turquoise tiles of the spire of the adjacent Torumtay Dome was planned with dual function both mosque and madrasah. The building is entered through the iwan reached via the stairs. Each sides of the iwan there are two lodge rooms lo-

cated. To the east of the mosque the tomb with a square plan has been added. One passes to the tomb through an entrance in iwan style. Tomb of which the main walls are built of stone, the spire and tambour of brick, regarding especially the glazed brick decorations on its tambour, is among the most important examples of its period.

Torumtay Tomb is near Gök Madrasah Mosque. It was built in 1278 upon the orders of Seyfeddin Torumtay, Amasya Governor, a two-storey building on a rectangular plan of ashlar stone. It is one of the few examples of rectangular buildings in Anatolia. The ornaments on the buttresses on the façades are in embossment style started to develop since the second half of the 13th century.

Torumtay Tomb





Bayezid II. Islamic Ottoman Social Complex

10- II. BAYEZİD KÜLLİYESİ (ISLAMIC OTTOMAN SOCIAL COMPLEX)

The construction of the complex consisting of mosque, madrasah, imaret and muvakkithane (little building where time for the ezan is determined) has started on the order of Ottoman Sultan Bayezid II by his son Şehzade Ahmed in 1485 and was completed in 1486. In the later years, a hot water and snow fountain, muvakkithane, a second fountain and six shops are added to the complex. The building is striking with its stone work and the wooden ornaments on the wings of the doors and win-

dows. To the east of the mosque, in the tomb with a single coffin Şehzade Osman is buried. In the west of the mosque, madrasah composed of eighteen cells is located. Madrasah today is used as the Provincial Public Library. To the east of the mosque, imaret is located. Today, with its main function, the imaret is still used as the soup kitchen of Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundation of Amasya Governorship. The landscapes of İstanbul on the dome of the fountain of Amasya Bayezid II Külliyesi and the ceiling skirtings of the muvakkithane are also striking works.

Bayezid II. Islamic Ottoman Social Complex





Burmali Minare Mosque

11- BURMALI MİNARE CAMİİ (MOSQUE)

It's located in Dere Quarter. According to the inscription on the entrance gate of the building it has been built upon the orders Necmeddin Ferruh Bey, the vizier of Gıyasettin Keyhüsrev II, and his brother the Treasurer Yusuf Bey in 1243. The tomb built of ashlar stone with a pyramidal roof, adjacent to the left corner of the entrance façade of the mosque, is known as "Cumudar Bey Tomb". The mummies of Cumudar Bey and Abuşka Noyin Bey in the museum have been transported from here to the museum. Its minaret, built in the 17th century, carries the early period characteristics of Ottoman archi-

itecture. The monument with its wooden pulpit with an inscription is also known as "Mahkeme Camii".

12- AMASYA TAŞHAN (INN)

The building built upon the orders of Rahtuvan Hacı Mehmet Paşa, Amasya Governor, in 1699 has a rectangular layout. There is a portal on the inner west façade of the building which is also in conjunction with the rooms on the lower and upper layers of the structure, opening to the outside. The outer façades on the east-west and north are surrounded by vaulted shops along the first floor. In the original plan, the body wall with lines of cut bricks rises as two storeys.

Amasya Taşhan (Inn)





Darüşşifa / Bimarhane (Hospital)

13- DARÜŞŞİFA / BİMARHANE (HOSPITAL)

It is located in Pirinçci Quarter on Pirinçci Street. It has been built upon the orders of İlduz (meaning 'star') Hatun, Ilkhanid ruler Sultan Muhammad Olcayto's wife, in 1308-1309. It's a monument where medical education has been given while the patients have been treated and the students have been presented with surgeries. Until 1873, the madrasah has educated many famous doctors. The most important of these is Sabuncuzade Şerefeddin. In the 16th century, it has been transformed to a centre where mental patients and psychopaths were treated by musical therapy. Darüşşifa, where also experimental techniques of medicine were exercised and medical education was given, with these features, take place on the top among the rare medical cen-

ters in Anatolia. The building which has thick solid walls, monumental entrance façade covered with cut stone, was built of rubble and mortar. Ornaments on the portal are embossed with high relief technique. The cross-legged woman figure on the low-arched lock stone of the portal is assumed to be İlduz Hatun who has ordered the building to be build.

14- ÇİLEHANE CAMİİ (MOSQUE) / PİR İLYAS ZAVİYESİ (DERVISH LODGE)

The building built by Amasya Beylerbeyi (Grand seignior) Yakup Paşa in 1412/1413 is a Khalwati lodge. In the north unit of the lodge consisting of two different parts united by a corridor, there is a semahane (place used for semah rituals) with a square layout and a dome, and two spaces with square layout one of which used as a tomb.

Çilehane Mosque



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Kunç Bridge

The unit on the south however is consisting of the prayer room in the middle with square layout and a dome and of two quite narrow invocation rooms on either side with fireplace niches inside.

Today, in the region called Pirlar Park, Pir İlyas and Pir Hamdullah tombs, striking with their architectural craftsmanship, are located.

15- KUNÇ KÖPRÜ (BRIDGE)

Built in the 12th century upon the orders of Hundi Hatun, Seljukian ruler Sultan Mesut's daughter, it connects Bayezidpaşa and Şamlar quarters with each other. With its wide arch distance on three big feet, it is the most conspicuous one among the capstone bridges.

16- BÜYÜK AĞA MEDRESESİ (MADRASAH)

According to its inscription, Büyük Ağa Madrasah was built in 1489 by Hüseyin Ağa, the chief eunuch for Bayezid II. The madrasah is striking with its different plan. Octagonal shaped, on the axis of the cross edges of the octagon are domed iwans included, to the south of the courtyard large square, domed classroom covering the whole façade has been placed. This room is notable in the way of projecting outwards from the body walls and the porch in front of its door for being covered with a dome of this room to create the body and the porch in front of the door unit is notable for being covered with a dome.

Büyük Ağa Madrasah





Saraydüzü Military Barracks, National War of Independence Museum And Congress Center

17- SARAYDÜZÜ MILITARY BARRACKS, NATIONAL WAR OF INDEPENDENCE MUSEUM AND CONGRESS CENTER

Amasya hosted Atatürk and his friends during the period of War of Independence, and has an importance place in the establishment of the Turkish Republic and War of Independence.

Atatürk who arrived at Amasya on June 12, 1919 after his visit to Samsun, after lingering discussions at Saraydüzü Military Barracks, has announced the Amasya Memorandum to the whole nation on 21 to 22 June 1919.

The Military Barracks became a prime location in our recent history in terms of being the place where the birth certificate of our Republic, "Amasya Memorandum", has been announced to the whole world.

At the entrance of Şamlar Quarter, in 2007 it has attained the look of today after the reconstruction made in its original architecture. In the building, the moment of welcoming Atatürk and his friends in the committee on June 12, 1919 at 17:00 at Kulistepe by a delegation from is animated by wax statues. Also in the building, there are the old and

new copies of Amasya Memorandum, the weapons and documents from the War of Independence years.

18- STRABO (63 BC - 21/24 AD)

Strabo, the famous geographer and historian, was born in 64-63 BC in Amasya. Having a rich family Strabo had a good education and he traveled to many places. He produced masterpieces on history, geography, and philosophy, thanks to all the knowledge he gained during his travels. Little parts are left from his book, composed of 43 volumes related to history, *Historika Hypomnemata* (Historical Notes).

The book *Geographumena* or *Geographika* (Geography), which has been prepared in alignment with the information, available during that period, where he does not only talks about geography, but interlinks the history and the philosophy of the geography as well.

After his travels, he came back to Amasya, which he calls "my hometown" and he spent rest of his life here. He died in 21 / 24 AD in Amasya. A new made sculpture is displayed at Şehzadeler Park.



Ferhat and Şirin Statues

19- FERHAT WATER CHANNEL

It is the drinking water transmission structure built in the Hellenistic Period, to meet the the water needs of Amasya across the castle. Water channels have been built in the water gage system. Its length is 25 km. The channel beginning in Kırkgöz Ovasaray, is vaulted under the earth at some places, and carved into the rocks at Ferhatarası. Passing through Gökmedrese, Yüzevler quarters, it ends in Beyazıtpaşa Quarter. According to the popular legend among the people these channels have been made by Ferhat who drilled the mountains to reach his lover Şirin. It is the most important symbol of a love legend known as "Ferhat and Şirin" in Anatolia. It is inevitable to say that the channel is created by the work of hundreds of people under the conditions of that period, considering the geographic location of the structure, the diameter and the length. The remains of the channel can be seen in Ferhatarası neighborhood.

20- THE LEGEND OF "FERHAT AND ŞİRİN"

Legend is that Ferhat who was a famous muralist, fell in love with Şirin, the sister of Sultan

Mehmene Banu. Ferhat sends a match-maker so as to get permission to marry her. Not willing to permit, Sultan stipulates something impossible: "There's no water in the city. If Ferhat can bring water to the city I'll permit their marriage." The water can only reach this city following a very far and rough way called "Şahinkaya-sı". However Ferhat is a brave man with the love of Şirin in his heart. Holding the pick he hits the rocks. Rocks split, giving way to the water. Mehmene Banu, realizing Ferhat is about to win finds a witch and sends the witch where Ferhat works for the water channel. She slyly smiles and says: "Why do you hit the rocks with such ambition? Şirin is dead.". Ferhat says in sorrow: "I can't live in a world without Şirin". In pain Ferhat throws his pick in the air.

The pick falls down to his head and Ferhat gets killed in the water channel for his love that he has opened. She shouts her lover's name "ŞİRİN!" out so loud that it's heard everywhere. Şirin, who's always waiting something to hear from the rocks hears her name called. As she learns about that Ferhat has died, she jumps over the rocks and dies. Her lifeless body lies next to



Lake Boraboy

Ferhat's.

21- AMASYA BORABOY LAKE - AKDAĞ NATIONAL PARK

Natural wonder Lake Boraboy located 21 km away from Taşova district center, is a natural dam lake formed by the blockage of a small stream by the debris coming from the surrounding, at a height of 1050 meters above the sea level. It is located in the north-east of Amasya's highest mountain Akdağ. Besides the natural beauty formed by the lake, the mixed forest cover in the surrounding consisting of beech, pine, oak and hornbeam are also here increasing the importance of this place. Boraboy Lake, with its bungalows, restaurants, hiking trails, camping and picnic areas, is in the state of being a centre visited by local and foreign visitors. With still ongoing works, 10035.00 ha Amasya Boraboy Lake Akdağ National Park, is 22 km to Suluova, 47 km to Amasya-Merzifon Airport, 61 km to Amasya city center. All the plateaus are decorated with different flowers in different seasons. Many species of endemic plants are creating riots of colors during the time of flowering. Sarıçiçek (meaning 'yellow flower')

Plateau, a visual treasure with its yellow flowers. The plateau gets its name from these flowers. In this area where local nomad highland culture is lived intensely, there are also plateau houses. Derinöz Canyon is one of the most special places in this area. Areas convenient to take photos in all seasons have a wealth of wildlife, and many mammals, bird species and jades can be seen in every season of the year. It has characteristics to feature ecotourism activities such as canyon trips, plateau tourism, moto-cross tours, jeep safari, photo-safari, trekking, nature sports. National Park Field, of which the works are still ongoing, has also winter tourism landscape values. There is a ski centre at 2 km north of Ladik (district of Samsun), and again 3km south of National Park the works of Amasya Akdağ ski center are continued.

22- BARAKLI KALESİ (CASTLE)

It is located in the south of Özbaraklı in Taşova, at a distance of about 2 km. It is a small garrison built during the Roman period to ensure the security of the caravan route passing through the area. It has a watchtower and walls



Terziköy Thermal Spring

built of rubble stone and lime mortar.

23- ULUKÖY SİNAN PAŞA HAMAMI (HAMMAM)

One of the most important monuments in Taşova-Uluköy is Sinan Paşa Hammam. It is assumed that this historical bath has been built by Sinan Paşa who is also the founder of the imaret in Afyon Sincanlı while he was Sivas Governor. The building is considered to be built before 1525 as Sinan Paşa has died at that date. Even though being damaged substantially in the earthquake of 1942, it still preserves its architectural and artistic values. The hammam has a quite interesting door composition. It has been restored according to its original by the Directorate of Foundations in 1997.

24- YASSIHÖYÜK / OLUZ HÖYÜK (MOUND)

During the excavations in Yassihöyük in Gözlek Village close to Amasya city centre, carried out by Assoc. Dr. Şevket DÖNMEZ from Near Eastern Archaeology Department, University of İstanbul since 2007, significant architectural rema-

ins and foundlings have been unearthed. The excavations are continuing.

25- TERZİKÖY THERMAL SPRING

Terziköy Thermal Spring, located 36 km away from the city center, has 54:000 m² green area. The temperature of the water is 39.5 ° C. With a 72-bed hotel, all rooms having thermal water, a 45-bed motel, restaurants, swimming pools, private booths, shopping facilities, a children's playground, picnic areas and private accommodation, it has an important place in the region's thermal tourism potential. It can be reached by private car or by scheduled public transport.

26- GÖKÇELİ KALESİ (CASTLE)

It's 8 km northwest of the Gönücek, approximately 1 km northeast of Gökçeli Village, on the rocks, overlooking the Çekerek Valley. It has been used as a garrison during the Roman period. It has a tunnel with many steps. In the different parts of the castle there are corridors carved into the rocks.



Yedikır Dam

27- YEDİKİR DAM (YEDİ KUĞULAR BIRD SANCTUARY)

Yedikır Dam Lake the biggest irrigation dam of the region located in Suluova has a volume of 60 million m³. The dam, also called Yedi Kuğular Bird Sanctuary is under protection. The lake being on the migration routes of birds is the natural habitat of the birds in the winter months. The surroundings of the lake is used as a promenade. The Lake is a bird sanctuary giving shelter to more than 34 bird species belonging to 16 families such as swans, graylags, mallards, ruddy shaddocks, cormorants and herons.

Çelebi Mehmed Madrasah and Clock Tower

28- ÇELEBİ MEHMET MEDRESESİ (MADRASA) AND THE CLOCK TOWER

It's located on Merzifon Cumhuriyet Street in Camii Cedit Quarter, next to mosque with the same name. The mosque has been built by Çelebi Mehmed's son Sultan Murad II in 1426. The building of the madrasah has been started in 1414 upon orders from Çelebi Mehmed and has been completed by Umur bin Ali Bey in 1417. Amasya Governor Ziya Paşa had the clock tower on the entrance door built in a later period.

29- MERZİFON TAŞHANI (INN)

It is located across the Merzifon Bedesten. Taşhan, one of the typical inner city Ottoman inns, with regards to its technique and craftsmanship, presents the character of the 17th century.

Its walls are built of ashlar stone and brick with alternative wall technique. It has a rectangular layout and has two storeys. Its round-arched gate is located at the south façade. The courtyard is surrounded by porches with thick ashlar stone columns.





Sofular Mosque

The two elegant fountains built next to each other at the north façade are aesthetic elements of the inn.

30- SOFULAR CAMİİ (MOSQUE)

It is located in Merzifon Sofular Quarter. The mosque is a structure consisting of a fountain and a tomb. In terms of its style, it is estimated that it has been built at the end of the 15th century and at the beginning of the 16th century. Only the lower part of the cylindrical brick minaret on the northwest corner of the mosque restored by General Directorate of Foundations, when almost all of it was collapsed, is original.

31- KARA MUSTAFA PAŞA CAMİİ (MOSQUE)

Kara Mustafa Paşa, one of the Grand Viziers of the Ottoman Empire, is from Merzifon's Marınca Village. Resulting in failure of the Siege of Vienna has been the end of the great statesman's life. Kara Mustafa Paşa Mosque located in the Gazi Mahub Quarter in Merzi-

fon, has been built in 1666. The main prayer hall having a rectangular plan consists of two parts. In the single-domed main section, the weight of the dome in the north is loaded over three arches and two piers, so taking back by the north wall, space has been expanded. Fountain of the mosque was repaired in 1840 and in 1851, and in 1875 İstanbul landscapes has been pictured by an artist named Zileli Emin with hand-carved technique on the inner surface of the fountain's dome. It takes place among the most important examples of the period.

Kara Mustafa Paşa Mosque





Abide Hatun Mosque

32- ABİDE HATUN CAMİİ (MOSQUE)

The mosque located in Merzifon, Karamustafa Paşa Village, has been built upon the orders of Abide Hatun, mother of Grand Vizier Kara Mustafa Paşa, at the beginning of the 17th century. In the mosque it is possible to see the best examples of ornamentations made with hand-carved on wood.

33- PİRİ BABA TÜRBESİ (TOMB)

Piri Baba Tomb located in Nus-

retiy Quarter of Merzifon, is one of the important pilgrimages of the period. Detailed information about Pir Baba's life unfortunately has not reached today. However, Evliya Çelebi's travel book comes at the first place among the sources giving information about him. The Tomb was built as two storeys, and ground floor is the funeral part. The top floor which can be visited is where the coffin is placed. The coffin here is unusually high and wide. With regards of the general structure, tomb offers an

Abide Hatun Mosque





Piri Baba Tomb

enslaved appearance. Since there is no inscription regarding to its construction, we don't possess any information about the precise date. However, considering the architectural characteristics it is assumed that it might have been built in the 13th century.

34- YÖRGÜÇ RÜSTEM PAŞA CAMİİ (MOSQUE)

The mosque located in Gümüşhacıköy, was built in 1429 upon the orders of Yörgüç Rüstem Paşa. The initial construction of which is known to

be half-timbered was rebuilt in 1560.

The building, went through many repairs over time, has been damaged in the earthquake in 1939 and was rebuilt in 1946.

The interior of the rectangular building is standing on four rectangular feet; central space has three consecutive domes the rear side of the mosque is vaulted.

The entrance façade of the mosque has pillars and covered by flat wooden ceiling on wood beams.

Yörgüç Rüstem Paşa Mosque





Maden Mosque

35- MADEN CAMİİ (MOSQUE)

It has been built as a church in 1800s in the Gümüş Quarter in Gümüşhacıköy and has later been converted into a mosque. It is rectangular in east-west direction. The interior is divided into three bays. All of wooden ornaments are the original ornaments dating from the days when the mosque used to be church. The corners of the façades are of ashlar stone, body walls are stone masonry. The narthex is on the west. It is covered by three domes resting on four pillars. The roof of the main

Köprülü Mehmed Paşa Mosque

area is covered with Turkish style tiles and has three rows of hedgehog eave. The original frescoes of the church uncovered during the restoration work carried out in 2007, can be seen in the mosque.

36- KÖPRÜLÜ MEHMET PAŞA CAMİİ (MOSQUE)

The Mosque was built upon orders of Grand Vizier Köprülü Mehmed Paşa in 1660. Since it has crashed down in the earthquake in 1939, it has been rebuilt in 1948. The building material of the mosque with a rectangular plan is rubble stone. The narthex is closed and its upper coverage is a wooden ceiling. It has a minaret with a single balcony. It is located in Gümüşhacıköy.

37- HALİLİYE MEDRESESİ (MADRASAH)

It is located in Gümüş Quarter in Gümüşhacıköy. It has been built in 1415 by Halil Paşa who was appointed to Gümüş Madeni Emirate by Çelebi Sultan Mehmed. In the Madrasah which is the only building with a closed courtyard in the region, the central closed courtyard is collapsed and the open courtyard of today is surrounded by porches with wooden lancet arches and flat ceilings.





Gümüşhacıköy Bazaar

In the rear main classrooms and rooms with three iwans are lined up.

38- GÜMÜŞHACIKÖY BE- DESTENİ (BAZAAR)

It is located in the south of Köprülü Mosque. It has been built by Köprülü Mehmet Paşa in 1660 as a mosque complex in his name. It has a long, narrow rectangular plan in the east-west direction. Especially the door overlooking the square of the four-door building is more elaborated and in 1900 the clock tower has been built above it by Yanyalı Mustafa Paşa's son Ali Rıza Bey. The red-white arch structure at the entrance doors of the bedesten which has gone partly through modification as the result of the restorations carried out in time, give a royalty to the building. It is known that upon the collapse of the clock tower built in 1900s, the towers of today have been built instead.

39- HAMAMÖZÜ THERMAL SPRING

It is located 90 km away from Amasya city center in Hamamözü. The temperature of the water is 42.5 °C.

There are Eski Hamam and within the Gimpaş Hotel a swimming pool and Turkish baths. Hamamözü Thermal Spring Water, according to the results of the analysis is in the group of "Oligo-mineral water".

40- DO NOT LEAVE WITHOUT TASTING

Don't leave the city, without tasting the **MİSKET ELMA**, which is also called the Amasya Apple, the **BAKLALI YAPRAK SARMASI** (rolls with broad beans), which is a unique taste, that you never came across so far, and also **KEŞKEK** (special wheat meal cooked with meat), from the local cuisine of Amasya, the healthy and tasty **TOYGA SOUP** (cooked with yogurt and wheat).